

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a television signal receiving apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising steps of:
 - detecting a first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold;
 - detecting a second condition wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed, said broadcast test including detecting reception of a test signal that is broadcast on a scheduled periodic basis; and
 - providing an output if both of said first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold and said second conditions wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed are detected.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said broadcast test includes determining whether said test signal includes a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said test signal is broadcast on a weekly basis.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprised of:
 - tuning a plurality of channels associated with said emergency alert function; and
 - identifying one of said channels having higher signal strength relative to said other channels as said selected channel.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprised of using said selected channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprised of:
 - providing a first output message if said first condition is not detected; and

providing a second output message if said second condition is not detected.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said first and second output messages each indicates a corrective action.

8. (Currently Amended) A television signal receiving apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising:

processing means for detecting a first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold, and for detecting a second condition wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed, said broadcast test including detecting reception of a test signal that is broadcast on a scheduled periodic basis; and

first output means for providing an output if both of said first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold and said second conditions wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed are detected.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said broadcast test includes determining whether said test signal includes a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said test signal is broadcast on a weekly basis.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:
tuning means for tuning a plurality of channels associated with said emergency alert function; and

wherein one of said channels having higher signal strength relative to said other channels is identified as said selected channel.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said tuning means tunes said selected channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising second output means for providing a first output message if said first condition is not detected, and for providing a second output message if said second condition is not detected.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said first and second output messages each indicates a corrective action.

15. (Currently Amended) A television signal receiver having an emergency alert function, comprising:

a processor operative to detect a first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold, and to detect a second condition wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed, said broadcast test including detecting reception of a test signal that is broadcast on a scheduled periodic basis; and

a visual indicator operative to provide an output if both of said first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold and said second conditions wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed are detected.

16. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 15, wherein said broadcast test includes determining whether said test signal includes a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function.

17. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 16, wherein said test signal is broadcast on a weekly basis.

18. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 15, further comprising:

a tuner operative to tune a plurality of channels associated with said emergency alert function; and

wherein one of said channels having higher signal strength relative to said other channels is identified as said selected channel.

19. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 18, wherein said tuner tunes said selected channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function.

20. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 15, further comprising a display operative to provide a first output message if said first condition is not detected, and a second output message if said second condition is not detected.

21. (Previously Presented) The television signal receiver of claim 20, wherein said first and second output messages each indicates a corrective action.